



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

March 5, 2023

2nd Sunday in Lent

Communion Sunday

*Our Vision is to Know, to Live
and to Share the Love of Jesus Christ.*

Hybrid Worship – 10:00am

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION

God of celebration, you have invited all people to rejoice in the goodness of your love. Help us to be hospitable to all people at your banquet, so that all might receive your blessing. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

PRELUDE

He Touched Me

W. Gaither

©1963 William J. Gaither, Inc.; CCLI Song #13072

Ahyoung Son, organ

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God, you call us, the good and the bad, the saint and the sinner.

**Clothe us in your gracious love, humility, and righteousness,
so we might be ready to feast at your banquet.**

Encourage us to open the doors to invite all your children to joyfully gather at your table.

**O God, we accept your invitation to gather and worship
in the spirit-filled presence of this community of faith.**

*OPENING HYMN

Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast

UMH 339, vv. 1-2, 4-5

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:1-14

Skip Sinclair

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

“The kingdom of heaven is...HOSPITALITY”

Pastor Heather

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS & GIFTS

Through our baptism and membership in the church, we covenant to give of our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Financial gifts, tithes and offerings support the mission and ministries of this congregation and the connectional church. Online giving is available at WestportUMC.org.

Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plates to be lifted up during the Prayers of the People and/or added to the weekly Prayer List.

MUSIC OFFERING

Violin Concerto in E minor, Op. 64 2nd mvt.
Sabrina Lee, violin; Ahyoung, piano

F. Mendelssohn

*HYMN OF PRAISE

O Love, How Deep

UMH 267, v. 6

OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Indicates that those who are able are invited to rise in body and spirit. ♦ Assisted hearing devices are available from an usher. “UMH” refers to The United Methodist Hymnal (red cover). “TFWS” refers to The Faith We Sing Hymnal (black cover).*

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who desire to turn from their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you call all of us here to experience your love, hope and grace. We confess that sometimes we come into your presence, thinking we are dressed in compassion and humility, but then realize that we are wearing judgement or shame instead. It is so easy to forget the worst of ourselves. We can feel unworthy or be convinced of others' unworthiness. It is so easy to disclude people from your invitation. Forgive our prejudice and teach us to extend your grace-filled invitation again and again.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God invites us to the banquet, clothes us in grace and mercy, and nourishes us with love and forgiveness.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts, your thoughts, your intentions to God.

We lift them up with joy!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of the kin-dom in heaven and on earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

And so, together with creation, your beloved children on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join the eternal song:

Holy, incredible, unimaginable God, full of power and strength,

All of heaven and earth are full of the signs of your glory!

You – Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit – amaze us!

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

Christ healed the sick, fed the hungry, ate with sinners and welcomed all into the kin-dom of heaven.

Christ sent us to tell the whole world about his love,

and now we, the body of Christ, join together at this banquet table.

Through Christ's ministry, suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from the power of sin and eternal death, and made with us a new covenant by baptism and the Holy Spirit.

On the night before Jesus died, he took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup,

gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

As a way to remember Christ's perfect love and life we joyfully and thankfully give you back our lives as holy and living sacrifices. Receive this gift of our lives as we proclaim the awe-filled truth of our faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,

So that by receiving them, you will make us the body of Christ

for the world to know that sin is redeemed by Christ's life, death and resurrection.

Renew us and help us to remember we are Christ's church. Strengthen our faith and service in every place and with all people so we can faithfully show and tell the world how much your love can do.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry of love and justice to all the world, until Christ comes again and we join around the banquet table as family in perfect love.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Loving Creator, we honor you, and we honor all that you have made.

Renew the whole world in the image of your love.

Give us what we need for today,

and a hunger to see the whole world fed.

Strengthen us for what lies ahead; heal us from the hurts of the past;

give us courage to follow your call in this moment.

For your love is the only power, the only home,

the only honor we need, in this world and in the world to come.

Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

In the United Methodist Church, all who wish to receive the love and grace of Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. At the direction of the ushers, you will be invited forward to receive a cup of juice and piece of gluten-free bread. Move down the altar rail to eat the bread and drink the juice. Leave your empty cup in the altar rail. Please return to your seat by the side aisles.

If you prefer pre-sealed communion and/or for the bread and cup to be brought to you, please notify the servers. If you are worshipping at home, the blessing of the table extends to the bread and cup which you bring to your worship space.

COMMUNION MUSIC

As We Gather at Your Table

TFWS 2268

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

UMH 664

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Ah, Holy Jesus
Ahyoung Son, organ

J. Crüger





WELCOME! It is a blessing to welcome you to worship today. If you are visiting, please sign the guestbook, introduce yourself to Pastor Heather, an usher or greeter, and check out WestportUMC.org to find out more about the mission and ministries of this community of faith.

ALL ARE INVITED TO FELLOWSHIP TIME and A PLACE AT THE MINISTRY TABLE in Fellowship Hall after the Worship Service.

The Ministry Table is an opportunity for all members and friends of the congregation to participate in the visioning, planning and leadership of the ministries of the church. We will hear a brief report from the Leadership Team on Finances and other ongoing work. Then, all are invited to join one of four tables: Outreach, Communications, Missions and Youth & Children’s Ministries. A member of the Leadership Team will facilitate conversation and goal setting in the ministry area. The meeting will wrap up by 12:15pm.

Coffee, tea and snacks will be served. All are welcome, regardless of previous experience. Your gifts, visions and ideas are a vital part of the ministry of the church!

<p><i>Portions of the Order of Worship are adapted from: The United Methodist Hymnal, The United Methodist Book of Worship, and The Faith We Sing, Nashville, TN: The United Methodist Publishing House All music is in the Public Domain, unless noted. ONE LICENSE # A-735187. All rights reserved. CCLI Stream Coverage License # CSPL086733; CCLI Copyright Coverage License #11173036 © 2017-2022 Spirit & Truth Publishing. All Rights Reserved Communion Liturgy adapted from Rev. Corey Turnpenny, 2013 – getlitworship.wordpress.com The Lord’s Prayer adaptation from theworshipwell.org</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WESTPORT AND WESTON 49 WESTON ROAD • WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OUR MINISTERS EVERY PARTICIPANT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION DAN GELMAN, LAY LEADER REV. HEATHER A. M. SINCLAIR, PASTOR</p> <p>JOHN COLLINGE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & COMMUNITY OUTREACH • AHYOUNG SON, ORGANIST STEVEN MAGDA, LIVESTREAM TECHNICIAN • MARILYN SMITH, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT</p> <p>TELEPHONE: 203.227.4707 E MAIL, CHURCH: OFFICE@WESTPORTUMC.ORG FACSIMILE: 203.227.6979 PASTOR: HSINCLAIR@WESTPORTUMC.ORG WEBSITE: WESTPORTUMC.ORG MUSIC & OUTREACH: MUSIC@WESTPORTUMC.ORG</p>
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